

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

A pricing scheme for a software tool includes a two-payment system in which a first payment is made by a customer to the software vendor to gain access to the software tool for a design project, and a second payment is made by the customer upon completion of the project. The second payment rewards the software vendor for cooperating with the customer to complete the project, so that the software vendor is incentivized to provide excellent customer support and also to create software tools that are easy to learn, easy to use, and highly functional. The software tool can insert watermarks in output files to enable auditing of tool usage.